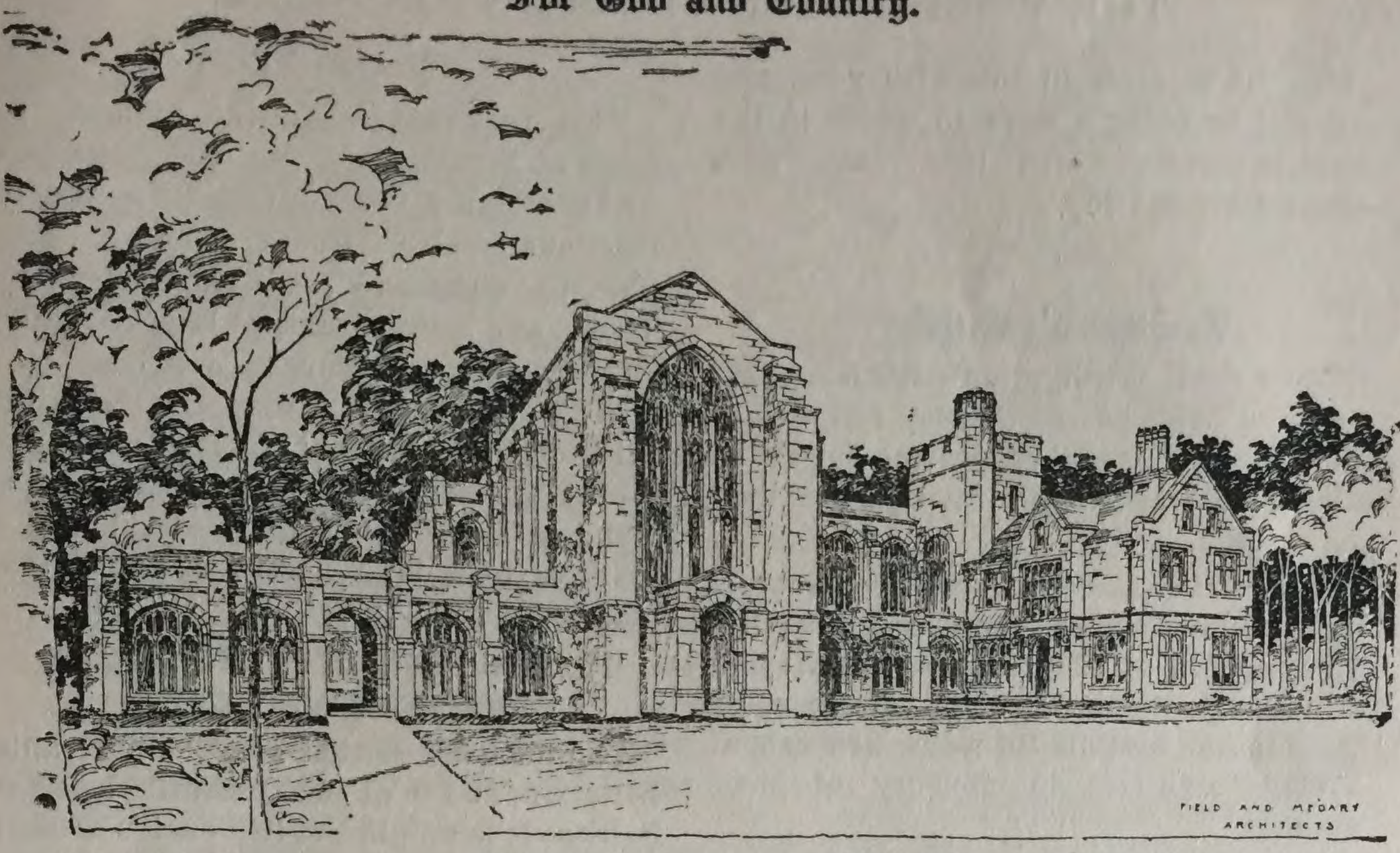
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—Cyrus Townsend Brady.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

Miss Emma W. Crawford, Editor. Mrs. Robert Wood, Business Manager

25 Cents a Year; Single Copies 3 Cents.

Entered as second class matter, April 22, 1908, at the post office at Valley Forge, Pa., under act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. IV. MARCH 15, 1912. NO. 12

The Washington Chapel Chronicle.

With this number the Washington Chapel Chronicle concludes its fourth year of service on behalf of religion and patriotism. In doing so we want to express our gratitude for the cordial reception our numbers have received. The many expressions of appreciation have encouraged us in our endeavors, and the Washington Chapel Guild has been gratified to know that its efforts have been so approved. As all our readers probably know, the Guild makes up the annual deficit, and this is always lessened by the generous contribution of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Convocation of Norristown.

But why should we have a deficit?

There would be no deficit if we could double our subscriptions. It would be an easy matter for each subscriber to secure one more subscription. With a little effort several could be secured. The Washington Chapel Chronicle might be largely expanded to advantage. It is a paper with possibilities, which few have realized. It could be readily made a journal of national importance.

Help us to grow in this fifth year, and you will be doing a work to which in the years to come you will look back with satisfaction and joy.

Washington's Birthday.

The annual Washington's Birthday service was held, but as the day fell within the season of Lent there was no supper or other festivities. The Rector preached the sermon.

That which made the service notable was the presence of the beautiful Pew Screen given by Miss Elizabeth Swift and Mrs. Sarah Swift Zulich in memory of Washington and his Brigadier Generals at Valley Forge and in memory of their parents.

The screen is of oak, like the pews. On the end toward the aisle are the arms of the Washington and Shippen families, and the inscription plate. The font is divided into three panels by buttresses, and each buttress is surmounted by an angel in supplication, the angels representing God's Providence, to which Washington attributed the success of the American patriots.

There are thirteen shields along the base of the screen, and on these are carved the names of the Brigadier Generals at Valley Forge. From left to right the names are: McIntosh, Maxwell, Poor, Glover, Patterson, Wayne, Varnum, Woodford, Muhlenberg, Weedon, Scott, Learned and Huntington.

In the panels above are thirteen battle flags of the Revolution, carved in wood and beautifully colored.

THE FLAG OF THE SECOND RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT.

Reading from left to right, the first flag is that carried by the 2nd Rhode Island Regiment. The original is in the State House at Providence, R. I., and is of white silk with a blue canton and thirteen white stars. On the centre of the flag is a scroll bearing the inscription:

R. ISLAND REG'T.

This regiment made the famous defence at Fort Mercer, on the Delaware, withstanding a fierce attack by a force of Hessians under Count Dunop. They were in command of Col. Christopher Greene and were encamped later at Valley Forge in General Varnum's Brigade.

In the Museum are several interesting relics of this regiment, including a bar shot, grape shot, and two of their buttons found at Red Bank (Fort Mercer), and a letter to Governor Wharton, of Pennsylvania, describing the action.

FLAG OF THE WESTMORELAND COUNTY BATTALION.

The next flag is that of a Pennsylvania battalion, and is of the greatest interest because it is an old English ensign altered for use by American patriots. The original is of red silk, 6 feet 4 inches long by 5 feet 10 inches. In the upper corner is the English Jack.

The coiled rattle-snake, so popular with the Americans, is placed at the center of the flag with its head extended toward the jack. This is the only original flag in existence with this design upon it.

Over the snake are the letters 1 B. W. C. P. and the monogram, J. P., which are supposed to stand for—John Proctor's 1st Battalion, Westmoreland County Provincials. The motto—DON'T TREAD ON ME is on a ribbon below the snake.

FLAG OF THE SECOND NEW HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT. (Blue.)

From a British flag altered to an American we pass to two American flags captured by the British. These are now owned by Col. George W. Rogers, of Wykeham, Burgess Hill, Sussex, England. These flags were captured at Fort Anne. Mr. Gherardi Davis gives the following account and description of the flags:

"Colonel Rogers informs me that these flafs (one of which is of light grey blue silk, the other being buff) were brought home by Lt. Col. Hill, who commanded the Ninth Foot, together with the colors

of his own regiment. Lt. Colonel Hill's daughter was the first wife of Colonel Rogers' grandfather, and the flags have been passed from one generation to another until they came into Colonel Rogers' hands.

"A. The blue flag. This flag (our third flag), which has a gold fringe, measures 5 feet along the staff and 5 feet 6 inches on the fly. In the centre of the flag is a small red shield with golden scrolls on either side and over it. On the shield are the letters N. H. interlaced under which is 2d, and under that again REGT. On the scrolls is the motto, "THE GLORY NOT THE PREY." In the upper corner next the staff are two superimposed crosses, the upright cross being red, bordered gold; the diagonal cross gold, bordered red.

B. The buff flag. In the centre of this flag is a golden disk with thirteen rays and thirteen thin lines radiating from it, each of which latter touches one of thirteen interesting golden rings. The disk bears the motto: "WE ARE ONE," and each ring the name of one of the thirteen original states. In the upper corner next the staff are eight triangles, alternating red and pale blue, so arranged as to form two crosses, one upright, the other diagonal. This flag is of the same size as the blue flag.

The 2d New Hampshire regiment was a part of General Poor's Brigade, that was encamped at Valley Forge.

STANDARDS OF TALLMADGE'S DRAGOONS.

The fifth and eleventh flags were carried by Tallmadge's Dragoons, and these men were also stationed at Valley Forge. These men had given a good account of themselves at Brandywine and Germantown, and while stationed here scoured the country for miles. Their commander was Major Benjamin Tallmadge, who was associated with Col. Livingston in the capture of Andre, and was the guard of the unhappy man to the moment of his execution. By a strange coincidence, it was Tallmadge's classmate at Yale, Nathan Hale, who had been executed by the British four years before the execution of Andre.

The flag has a canton in the upper corner, of seven gold stripes painted on the blue, making thirteen in all. The design in the centre is a winged disk of gold, from which thunderbolts dart. Above this is a golden scroll with the legend: 2d REGT LT DRAGOONS. On another scroll below the disk is the motto: PATA CONCITA FULMNT NATI.

The Pink Standard (No. 11 on the Screen) is like the Blue Standard, except that the stripes in the canton are white and pink. The scrolls are of silver, and bear the same inscription.

THE RATTLESNAKE FLAG. FLAGS OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE NAVY.

The yellow flag with the rattlesnake upon it is the flag presented to Congress, Feb. 8, 1776, by Col. Christopher Gadsden, of South Carolina, "to be used by the Commander-in-Chief of the American Navy." Colonel Gadsden was a member of the Marine Committee of Congress. "Commodore Esek Hopkins, who during the Revolution held this rank in the navy —a relative position to that of Washington in the army—is said to have been the first naval commander that used this flag."

The original flag was of yellow silk, and was placed near the seat of John Hancock. What became of it no one knows, although some assert it was used by Paul Jones and others; then it was taken to Fort Moultrie.

THE PINE TREE FLAG OF NEW ENGLAND.

The Pine Tree Flag of New England was made in several designs. The one represented has the cross of St. George in the canton with a green pine tree in the first quarter. "It is thought that this may have been the flag displayed at Bunker Hill."

THE FORT MOULTRIE FLAG.

While Congress tediously debated and with slow steps moved to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, Colonel William Moultrie and his men were busy on the defenses of Charleston, S. C. Their flag was a blue field and a crescent, but their repulse of the attack by the British gave warrant for the addition of the word "Liberty."

THE FLAG OF THE BUCKS OF AMERICA.

The next flag is interesting as a reminder of the part which the negroes took in the Revolution. There were negroes in some of the regiments at Valley Forge, and General Varnum, who commanded the brigade which camped next to the Chapel site, suggested the organization of negro regiments. Col. Greene and other officers were sent to recruit such regiments and were entirely successful. The owners of these slaves were paid in full for their losses.

The flag represented here is the property of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Mr. Davis says the flag "is quite curious and has on it a Pine Tree and the Union with thirteen stars. The flag is now a shade of buff, the union a faded blue; the stars were once gilded. The back is painted in brown, the tree and ground blue-green shaded with brown; the scrolls are dark robins'-egg blue, shaded with green, and the letters were gilded. The flag is a little over five feet by about three feet six inches in size."

FLAG OF THE THIRD CONNECTICUT REGIMENT.

The next flag represented is considered by Mr. Davis to be "a guidon of some sort." It is the property of the Pennsylvania Society, Sons of the Revolution, and is preserved in the rooms of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It was given to the society by Mr. Francis Parsons Webb, who was a descendant of Col. Samuel B. Webb. Colonel Webb was an ardent patriot, who went into service as soon as he heard the news of the action at Lexington. At one time he served as secretary and aide-de-camp to Washington. The Third Connecticut regiment was raised and equipped by him, almost entirely at his own expense. He was captured while serving under General Samuel H. Parsons at Long Island, and was a prisoner from December 10, 1777 to 1780. It is interesting to note that he held the Bible at the inauguration of Washington.

The flag, or guidon, is made of yellow silk and on it is depicted an unsheathed sword from which depends a green wreath tied with pink ribbons. Below the sword is the letter I.

(To Be Continued.)

A Note of Regret.

Our March number is months behind time. For this we are deeply sorry. The publishers are largely dependent upon the pen of the Rev. Mr. Burk, for he is the chief contributor to our columns. His complete collapse, followed by a slow recovery in which every particle of strength was required to meet the ordinary demands of his work, and then long weeks in which his right arm and hand were disabled by neuritis, have prevented him from furnishing the copy required for our pages. We are glad to announce that the numbers will now follow in rapid succession, and we expect to have the August number out on time.

In addition to his regular classes in teacher training held at the Church House, Philadelphia, on the second and fourth Saturdays, the Rector will have a class at St. Luke's Church, Germantown, on the Thursday afternoons during Lent, and on the Wednesday evenings he will give a series of addresses in Grace Church, Mt. Airy, on the "Minor Prophets." He is to make addresses at the noon-day services in Christ Church, Philadelphia, and St. Paul's Church, Camden, N. J.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, B. D.
RECTOR

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Mr. Charles Wells Walker,
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Devon, Pa.

Mr. Clayland Stephens Walker,
Rector's Warden,
Centreville, Pa.

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Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Chorister.

Chapel Telephones—3514 and 18L,
Port Kennedy.

Calendar.

Sundays.

10.45 A. M. Service and Sermon.
2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Holy Communion, First Sunday.

At Stewart Fund Hall, King-of-Prussia:
9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon.

MARCH.

15. 3 P. M. Service and Sermon.
7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon, King-of Prussia.
17. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
22. 3 P. M. Service and Sermon.
7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon, King-of-Prussia.
24. Fifth Sunday in Lent.
25. The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.
29. 3 P. M. Service and Sermon.
7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon.
31. Sunday next before Easter. (Palm Sunday).

APRIL.

1. Monday before Easter.
9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.
2. Tuesday before Easter.
9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.
3. Wednesday before Easter.
9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.
4 Thursday before Easter.
8 P. M. Holy Communion and Sermon.
5. Good Friday.
10 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.
3 P. M. Service and Sermon.
7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon, King-of-Prussia.
7. Easter Day.
6 A. M. Morning Prayer and Address.
9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes, King-of-Prussia.
10.45 A. M. Holy Communion and Sermon.
2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Easter Festival.
7.30 P. M. Easter Festival, King-of-Prussia.
8. Monday in Easter Week.
9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.
7.30 P. M. Service and Congregational Meeting.
Election of three Vestrymen.
9. Tuesday in Easter Week.
9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.
11. Opening of the Gate House.
2 to 10 P. M.
14. First Sunday after Easter.

Confirmation, Trinity Sunday, June 2.

Nominations for Vestrymen must be made to the Wardens in writing before April 6.

The Rector desires to make public acknowledgment of his appreciation of the many kindnesses shown to him and his household by Mr. Frank Quigg in the year that he was his tenant. Mr. Quigg spared neither expense nor trouble in his efforts to minister to the comfort and happiness of the Rector, and by his helpfulness made it possible for him to devote his whole attention to the parish.

The Rector's Illness.

During the service of the Holy Communion on Sunday, March 3, the Rev. W. Herbert Burk was taken ill, but preached a sermon, and continued the service to its close. As soon as possible he was removed to the Defender's Gate, and Dr. George Fetters Hartman was called in to attend him. Mr. Burk was found to be suffering from nervous exhaustion as the result of the long-continued strain under which he had been working.

History of Valley Forge.

BY HENRY WOODMAN.

LETTER XIV.--Continued.

Norristown Herald and Free Press, Aug. 21, 1850.

In a former number, I mentioned where Sullivan's men were stationed, and promised to give some further information concerning it. As before noticed, they were placed on the river Schuylkill between headquarters and the Fatland Ford. During the time of the encampment at the place, Sullivan and his hardy New England boys constructed a bridge over the river, in order to facilitate their passage across in case they should be compelled to make a hasty retreat from the place, and to afford them more ready means of obtaining necessaries from the opposite side. This was done in the spring of 1777,* by building piers in the river and placing timber upon them in a rough and ready manner. What method they took to erect these pillars in the channel I have never learned. They were placed much nearer together than our modern bridges, and the span formed of one piece of timber, extending from one pier to another. The foundations of these pillars are, for aught I know, still remaining; when the water was low they could be distinctly seen. I have often seen them previous to the river being made made navigable by slack water navigation; since that time the water being raised by a door constructed about two miles lower down the river, they are covered several feet under the water, and the only object to mark the spot where the bridge once stood is a stone placed on the bank opposite the place, with the inscription on it of "Sullivan's Bridge, 1778." But I have got in advance of my narrative, and I must return to Sullivan and his men.

It has been several times noticed in former communications, that provisions were very scarce during that winter, to which we may also add that various means were resorted to in order to procure them; and it may be in place here to relate a circumstance that was related to me, of the means made use of by these hardy New Englanders to procure food. The account was given to me by Henry Pawling, Esq., the father of the late Levi Pawling, of Norristown, an eminent lawyer, for many years the head of the Montgomery county bar, and a representative in the 17th Congress. Henry Pawling, who, at the time of the encampment, owned the property immediately opposite the place, and who resided all his life time on the same farm, informed me he had often seen them during that winter, when the water was clear, and not frozen over, wading in the water, braving the inclemency of the weather, to hunt mussels for

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*This should be 1778.

food, and when thus engaged they would jocosely observe that fresh water clams made good soup. I have often heard a story related concerning the bridge, before removing to this county, and since my residence here I met with an aged man, an officer of the revolutionary army, who was encamped there and present at the time the conversation took place. I allude to General Samuel Smith, late of Buckingham township, deceased, who related the circumstance nearly as I had always heard it from others. After the work was finished, Gen. Sullivan invited Gen. Washington and a number of other officers, with some people in the neighborhood, to come and see it, and take a walk over it. A number of officers and others complied with the request, among whom was David Stephens, who, residing near the place was probably better acquainted with the freshets that occurred in the river, and particularly those upon breaking up of the ice, than any of them present, was asked by Sullivan his opinion of the stability of his bridge, and how long he supposed it would stand He, in reply to his question, informed him that it might possibly stand till the next ice flood, but he was certain that on the next breaking up of the ice, if accompanied by a heavy flood, it would be carried off. Sullivan, who was rather profane in his language, though in other respects an amiable and benevolent man, replied in language I shall not repeat, his assurance of the durability of his structure, by positively declaring that all the ice floods that ever were and would be in the Schuylkill, would not be able to destroy it. It stood during the ensuing summer, but at the breaking up of the ice at the close of the next winter, it was, with the exception of the piers, carried away, and this ended Sullivan's Bridge. One great cause of its being so soon carried off, was owing to its not being sufficiently high to admit the water and ice to pass under it, and the materials of which the passage was composed, were so slightly put together, that they were unable to stand a heavy pressure or a sudden rise of the stream. If I should judge from the remains of the piers, I should say the bridge was much narrower than similar structures of the present day, probably not more than twelve feet in width; three pieces of timber extended from one pier to another across the stream, and upon these were laid pieces of timber for flooring, formed by splitting a log into two equal parts, the flat sides towards the water, and fastened to the sleepers by boring holes through them and fastening them with wooden pins. I think I have heard it related that during the time of the encampment the river did not rise to so great a height as it generally did during the winter, that the ice and snow gradually melted and passed off, without doing much damage, which may be one cause of Sullivan's confidence in the durability of his bridge, which subsequently proved futile.

I shall now draw the present communication to a close, by observing that in my next I shall have occasion to refer to some occurrences that took place during the time of the encampment, and also to have reference to a state of the surrounding country after the close of the winter, and while the soldiers remained there, in order to show, if possible, the dreary prospect that presented itself, and the discouragement under which the inhabitants labored.

A VALLEY FORGE ORDERLY BOOK

Printed by Courtesy of Its late Owner, Mr. George Clifford Thomas.

Head Quarters, February 22nd, 1778.

Major General.....Lord Sterling
Brigadier General.....Woodford
Field Officers.....Lt. Colo. Bossett, Major Hull
Brigade Major.....Bailey

The Commissary General to keep the camp supplied with Rice for the use of the sick if rice cannot be had Indian meal to be provided in its place and as this is an article that can at all times and under

all circumstances be had no excuse will be admitted for their neglect. he is every munday to make returne of all his issues in the course of the week and of his stock on hand in camp, and on the 1st day of every Month the Issues in the month Preceeding are to be carefully made out and forwarded to the Commissary Genl. who is to return the whole in one view as soon after as possible to the Commander in Chief. A monthly return is allso to be made of the Quantity of Provisions and other articles in the Commissary's department.

The Regimental Surgeons are desired to be more punctual in making returns of their sick to the Chief Surgeon of the Flying Hospittal every monday.

At a General Court Martial whereof Colonel Cortland was president February 17th 1778 Thomas Scott of the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment Tryd for deserting to the Enemy the 5th of October last found Guilty and sentenced to receive 100 lashes. James Low of the 13th Washington Regt Tryd for the same crime found guilty and sentenced to receive 100 Lashes. Also John Henry of the 7th Virginia Regt. Tryd for the same crime and acquitted.

Thos. Whitney of Captain Brown's company of artillery tryd for the same crime found Guilty and sentenced to receive 100 Lashes. at the same Court Wm. Harris of the 9th Pennsylvania Regt. Tryd for gitting drunk threatning of one Cameron and knocking him down allso for striking the corporal of the Quarter Guard after being confined and Denis Canedy of the 9th Pennsylvania Regt. Tryd for abusing and striking Sd. Cameron Threatning to desert as soon as he got shoes and cursing Congress Wm. Harris found Guilty of striking the corporal of the Quarter Guard being a breach of Article 5th Section 18th of the articles of war and sentenced to receive 30 lashes Denis Canady found Guilty of the charge alleged against him and sentenced to receive 100 Lashes— The Commander in Chief approved the foregoing sentences and orders those against Lawless Low Whitney Harris & Canady to be put in Execution to morrow morning at Roll Call at the head of the regiments to which they belong Scott to be Immediately released from Confinement allso Henry who is to joine his Regt.

The sail of Books mentioned in the orders of the 19th Instant is posponed.

Lottery Tickets to be sold at the Pay Master Generals Quarters if applied for soon.

Head Quarters, February 3d, 1778.

Major General.....tomorrow.....Green
Brigadier.....Smith
Field Officers.....Lt. Colo. Mead, Major Forimer
Brigade Major.....Lerned
Field Officers for detailment.....Colonel Bagalow
Lt. Colo. Regineer, Major Peter

The Brigadiers and officers commanding Brigades to meet to-morrow morning 10 oClock at General Sullivan's Quarters to make a just Distribution of the Cloathing in the Cloathers General department & now in Camp and near at hand on its way to it in proportion to the real necessities of the men in order to which the Commanding officers of Regiments and Corps are to make an exact return of the wants of thier men to thier respective Brigadiers and officers Commanding Brigades before the time provided for thier meeting the Board In their distribution are to have particular regard to the artillery and other Corps not attached to any particular State having consequently no chance of other supplys and are to make them an allowance accordingly.

The officers commanding Morgans Corps will furnish the Board with a Return of the wants of the men under his command Regimentally Dezisted for which they are to make Generous and effectual properties as circumstances will permit duplicates of the returns to be made to the commanding officers of the respective Regiments from which these men were draughted who are to take proper notice of the same in thier Regimental acounts—

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The rector lectured on "Valley Forge" at Glenolden, Pa., February 16th.